

### Abstract

Embodiments of the invention provide a sealed digital camera system that eliminates the use of wear items in the case, essentially providing a fully-sealed digital camera system. As a result, the camera is protected from exposure to the outside environment during use and the integrity of the case is not degraded during normal operation. Unlike conventional

5 systems, the sealed digital camera system of the present invention is not subject to catastrophic failure, even when used under high pressure for extended periods. Use of a high capacity integrated or replaceable storage system and/or battery system with the present invention eliminates the need for a user to access the camera itself. Images taken by the camera can be sent to an external display unit via a suitable transmission link, again without

10 the need to open the case. The present invention provides vast improvements in reliability, ruggedness, maintainability as well as price competitiveness as compared with conventional underwater cameras.

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL709303541US

Date of Deposit: December 6, 2000

This paper or fee is being deposited on the date indicated above with the United States Postal Service pursuant to 37 CFR 1.10, and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231.